

RESOLUTION NO. _____, SERIES 2008

A RESOLUTION PETITIONING THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES TO PERMANENTLY EXEMPT THE DELTA QUEEN FROM THE RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE SAFETY OF LIFE AT SEA LAWS.

Sponsored By: Council Member Tom Owens

WHEREAS, the Safety of Lives at Sea laws (SOLAS) were created to provide for the safety of passengers on ships at sea; and

WHEREAS, the Steamer Delta Queen does not go to sea and is never out of sight of land; and

WHEREAS, actuarial societies and fire-fighters have long recognized that although wood burns, it remains structurally sound longer in fires than many non-combustible materials including steel; and

WHEREAS, the Delta Queen is furnished and decorated with fire-resistive materials and coatings; and

WHEREAS, the Delta Queen is equipped throughout with an automatic firefighting sprinkler system that is activated at all times the boat is in operation; and

WHEREAS, dedicated watchmen, using a key-station system, patrol the boat at all hours; and

WHEREAS, the entire crew is trained and drilled weekly or more often in firefighting techniques; and

WHEREAS, the Delta Queen has an exemplary safety record over a period of more than 80 years; and

WHEREAS, the Delta Queen directly employs about 100 American persons in the crew plus additional professional and clerical help ashore; and

WHEREAS, the Delta Queen pays taxes the same as other businesses and individuals; and

WHEREAS, travel agencies throughout the nation depend, in part, on the boat for income; and

WHEREAS, the Delta Queen is a significant economic asset to its owners, its employees, the public and the cities it serves; and

WHEREAS, the Delta Queen is recognized by the National Register for Historic Places as an unique and irreplaceable monument; and

WHEREAS, the Delta Queen has served and could again serve in the defense of our nation.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF THE LOUISVILLE/JEFFERSON COUNTY METRO GOVERNMENT (THE COUNCIL) AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION I: The Council does hereby petition the Congress of the United States to permanently exempt the Delta Queen from the rules and Regulations of the Safety of Life at Sea laws.

SECTION II: This Resolution shall take effect upon its passage and approval.

Kathleen J. Herron
Metro Council Clerk

Jim King
President of the Council

Jerry E. Abramson
Mayor

Approval Date

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY:

Irv Maze
Jefferson County Attorney

BY: _____